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1. Wilhelm Pieck cares very little for political questions. He regards himself as the "Father of the Country" and, therefore, carefully avoids all personal intervention into politics. His only ambition is to help his personal friends by putting them into well paid positions. In short, he is only a figurehead.

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2. Walter Ulbricht owes all his personal power position to Moscow, and in consequence his main and nearly exclusive concern is to act and talk in a way which puts him in the best possible light in Moscow's eyes. Recently he had to suffer extensive criticism because of his failure in regard to the "National Front." His success in the "Peace action," however, somewhat balanced his situation. His relations with Pieck are not cordial, but not unfriendly, for Pieck is in no way a rival of the over-ambitious and intelligent Ulbricht.

3. Otto Grotewohl was regarded at first by the Soviets as a marionette only, but in the meantime he succeeded admirably well in gaining Moscow's esteem. He is a very sly and clever man and knows perfectly well how to handle the Russians. His relations to Ulbricht are formally correct, but in reality there is a life and death rivalry between these two.

4. Franz Dahlen is, with Ulbricht and Grotewohl, the most important man of the German Communist Party (SED) in the Politburo. Moscow intends to give him more power and responsibility, partly because of his unquestionable abilities, partly to bind him more closely to the goal of Communism. He himself announced, during a recent confidential conversation, that the right to have his say in politics had newly been reinforced. The relations between Dahlen, Ulbricht, and Grotewohl are correct but cold, because the last two know Dahlen as an independent-minded, strong-willed man and, therefore, do not trust him. The strong underground rivalry of these three leaders of German Communism, however, cannot manifest itself openly.

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